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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/765,542	01/19/2001	William B. Lees	MS1-677US	1426
22801	7590	02/03/2004	EXAMINER	
LEE & HAYES PLLC 421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500 SPOKANE, WA 99201			PHAM, KHANH B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2177	
DATE MAILED: 02/03/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/765,542	LEES ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Khanh B. Pham	2177

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 14 January 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See continuation sheet.
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: _____.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. Other: _____.


JOHN BREENE
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Independent claims 1, 18, 27, 39, 42, 55 and 73 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Beckhardt (US 6,138,124 A).

As per claim 1, Beckhardt teaches a network system, comprising:

- "a first computer configured to maintain an object having an attribute, the attribute comprised of individual values, the individual values having conflict-resolution data" at Col. 1 lines 15-25;
- "a second computer configured to maintain a replica object, the replica object being replicated from the object" at Col. 1 lines 25-35;
- "the second computer further configured to replicate the object from the first computer and resolve a replication conflict between a value of the attribute in the object and the value of the attribute in the replica object, the replication conflict being resolved with the conflict-resolution data" at Col. 2 lines 1-21.

As per claim 18, Beckhardt teaches a state-based replication system, comprising:

- "an object having an attribute comprised of linked values, individual linked values having indicators to indicate a change to a linked value of the attribute" at Col. 1 lines 15-25;
- "a computing device configured to replicate the object and, with the indicators, identify a change to a linked value of the attribute" at Col. 1 lines 25-35.

As per claim 27, Beckhardt teaches a state-based replication system, comprising:

- "a first computer configured to maintain a first data structure, the first data structure having a multi-valued attribute comprised of linked values" at Col. 1 lines 15-25;
- "individual linked values having conflict-resolution information to indicate a change to a value of the attribute" at Col. 3 lines 39-50;
- "a second computer configured to maintain a second data structure having the multi-valued attribute comprised of the linked values" at Col. 1 lines 25-35;
- "and the first and second data structures configured to be replicated and to have a replication conflict between a value of the attribute in the first data structure and a value of the attribute in the second data structure resolved with the conflict-resolution information associated with the values" at Col. 2 lines 1-21.

As per claim 39, Beckhardt teaches a computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure, comprising:

- "a first data field containing an attribute" at Col. 6 lines 50-55;
- "a second data field containing a linked value of the attribute contained in the first data field" at Col. 6 lines 50-55;
- "a third data field containing a version indicator corresponding to a version of the linked value contained in the second data field" at Col. 3 lines 39-50;
- "and a fourth data field containing an update indicator corresponding to when the version indicator contained in the third data field is changed" at Col. 5 lines 35-50.

As per claim 42, Beckhardt teaches a network system, comprising:

- "a first computer configured to replicate objects at an attribute level, and further configured to maintain an object having a multi-valued attribute, the multi-valued attribute comprised of individual values" at Col. 1 lines 15-25;
- "a second computer configured to replicate objects at an attribute value level, and further configured to maintain a second object, the second object having a multi-valued attribute comprised of individual values, the individual values configured to have conflict-resolution data" at Col. 1 lines 25-25;
- "the first computer further configured to: replicate the second object from the second computer; resolve a replication conflict between the object and the second object at the attribute level; and resolve a replication conflict between the object and the second object at the attribute value level with the conflict-resolution data" at Col. 2 lines 1-21.

As per claims 55, 72, Beckhardt teaches a method and a computer readable medium performing the method comprising:

- "replicating an object stored in a first directory with a replica object stored in a second directory, the object and the replica object having an attribute comprised of individual values, the individual values having conflict-resolution data" at Col. 1 lines 10-35;
- "comparing a value of the attribute in the object with a value of the attribute in the replica object to identify a replication conflict; and resolving the replication conflict with the conflict-resolution data" at Col. 1 lines 35-55

As per claims 73, 80, Beckhardt teaches a method and a computer readable medium performing the method of replicating a linked value of a multi-valued attribute contained in an object comprising: "comparing the conflict-resolution information associated with the linked value in the object with the conflict-resolution information associated with the linked value in the replica object; identifying a replication conflict with the conflict-resolution information; and resolving the replication conflict with the conflict-resolution information" at Col. 2 lines 1-21.

Claims 81-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bodnar et al. (US 6,295,541 B1)

As per claims 81, 86, Bodnar teaches a method and a computer readable medium performing the method, comprising:

- "replicating a first object with a second object, the first object having an attribute comprised of linked values" at Col. 7 lines 10-35;
- "the second object having an attribute comprised of linked values configured to have associated conflict-resolution data" at Col. 25 lines 10-20;
- "resolving first a replication conflict between the first object and the second object at an attribute level; and resolving second, with the conflict-resolution data, a replication conflict between the first object and the second object at an attribute value level" at Col. 33 lines 30 to Col. 34 line 20.